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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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TO : [REDACTED] Chairman, ARC

DATE: 2 March 1960

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FOIAB3C

FROM : [REDACTED] TCO/NSA

4/10/1 recd

P.L. 86-36

SUBJECT: Technical guidance in pursuance of requirements for ELINT

1. Thank you for a copy of your memo to Operations Branch, DPD/DD/P of 25 February 1960, above subject.

2. We would like to make clear our position on this general matter, which has apparently been open to some misunderstanding. NSA will endeavor to provide to CIA the best information and support to CIA ELINT activities we are able to give, in accordance with CIA's needs. This support will represent all information and assistance from Army, Navy and Air Force Cryptologic assets as well as those of NSA (both PROD and R&D) and as appropriate, the [REDACTED] We will make every effort to mould this support in accordance with the needs of your operations and request you advise us on a continuing basis if improvements are required. In accordance with your memo, we will make contact with [REDACTED] and request that technical data be exchanged between our respective people both in advance of and following an operation so that our support may be made as useful as possible.

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3. With reference to para. 4 of the basic letter, some confusion apparently also continues to exist concerning the meaning of the expression "technical guidance". NSA does not consider technical guidance to be tasking although these items are certainly related. Tasking is defined as the operational implementation of a collection task which results from an approved consumer statement of an intelligence need or requirement. Technical guidance is the technical detail concerning the nature of environmental factors related to the target and its intercept exploitation. Technical guidance must be considered in the tasking implementation in order to provide intercept instructions which should most effectively exploit the target in a specific operating situation.

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NSA review completed

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